



DECS Staff Biosketches



Douglas L. Risk DDS

Colonel Douglas L. Risk is the Director of the US Air Force Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service (DECS), a 59th Dental Group Staff Agency located at Joint Base San Antonio - Fort Sam Houston Texas. DECS is responsible for providing assistance in resolving operational issues at in-garrison dental clinics, expeditionary dental clinics and conducting special projects tasked by HQ AFMOA/SGD. DECS also tests, evaluates, and provides consultative services on dental equipment, materials, infection control, patient safety, dental readiness, and other items of interest to the Federal Dental Services. DECS maintains two websites providing information on new products, literature reviews, announcements and alerts from manufacturers as well as over 50 continuing education lectures open to federal dentists maintaining ADA/CERP accreditation for those activities. DECS also reviews remodeling plans and new construction for dental facilities worldwide and provides consultation on equipment requests as a reviewer for TIGERS. The DECS materials specialists provide research assistance to AF Post Graduate Dental School Residency programs and provide expert lectures to many AEGD-1 programs.

Colonel Risk entered active duty through the Military Indoctrination of Medical Services Officers (MIMSO) Program at Sheppard AFB, TX in 1987 after graduating from Georgetown University School of Dentistry. As a direct accession dental officer, he has had a variety of clinical and administrative duties and is a graduate of the two-year general dentistry residency at Lackland AFB. After graduating the residency in 1997, Colonel Risk became the first dentist to successfully challenge the certifying board in Infection Control and Epidemiology in 1998 and is a Diplomate of the Federal Services Board of General Dentistry and the American Board of General Dentistry. He has commanded at the squadron level and served as Deputy Group Commander at Bolling AFB and Offutt AFB. He served as the Chief of Dental Services at Kunsan AB, Korea; RAF Croughton, UK; and Mountain Home AFB, ID; and served on the staff of the Air Force

Surgeon General, Headquarters Air Force. In November 2003, Colonel Risk deployed to the 379th Air Expeditionary Medical Group, Southwest Asia, in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM where he was individually responsible for the dental health of the Air Force's largest Air Expeditionary Wing including over 6,000 coalition personnel.



Wen Lien DMD

Lt Col Lien is the Director, Dental Materials Research at the USAF Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service (DECS) and is an Assistant Professor in the USAF Postgraduate Dental School, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He is responsible for designing, conducting, and implementing research. Dr. Lien received his BS degree in Chemistry from the University of California, Irvine, a Master of Science in Medical Physics from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and his Doctor of Dental Medicine from Case Western Reserve University. He completed a two-year postgraduate clinical residency in Advanced Education in General Dentistry from Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB in 2009. Later, from 2009 to 2012, Lt Col Lien served as a Research Liaison Officer for the US Army, Navy, and Air Force at the US Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR), Joint Base San Antonio. Subsequently, he completed a Biomaterials fellowship and earned a Master of Science in Biomaterials from Indiana University.



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Kelli C. Mack DDS

Lt Col Kelli Mack is the Director of Professional Services at the USAF Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service (DECS). Lt Col Mack is the Infection Control and Patient Safety Consultant for the USAF Dental Service. Dr. Mack received her BS in Microbiology and her DDS from Howard University. She has practiced dentistry in the private sector, the Army Reserves and the Air Force Active Duty Corps. Lt Col Mack has completed a postgraduate fellowship in Patient Safety/Infection Prevention and Control at the Veterans Affairs Pittsburgh Health Center. Her duty locations have included Travis AFB, California; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Irwin, California; Kadena AB, Okinawa Japan and in July of 2013, she was assigned to the USAF Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Dr. Mack has been a part of organized dentistry for 18 years and is an active member of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) and the Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention (OSAP). Lt Col Mack has been responsible for the direct oversight of dental infection prevention and control programs for over eight years.



James W. Basden DDS

Dr. James W. "Bill" Basden is the Director, Facility Design & Review. Dr. Basden is a graduate of Baylor College of Dentistry and he served over 30 years in the Air Force Dental Service. His military duties included tours as squadron commander, group commander, medical inspector for the Air Force Inspection Agency, and MAJCOM/SGD. Dr. Basden completed the Advanced Clinical Dentistry Program in 1988 at Eglin Air Force Base, FL. Following his retirement from Air Force Dentistry, Dr. Basden has been involved in clinical dentistry as an independent contract dentist for several companies. He also served as a clinical consultant to Force3, Inc. during the deployment of digital dental radiography. In his current position, Dr. Basden desires to make improvements to the delivery of dental care for both patients and staff.



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Richard Gilbert

MSgt Richard Gilbert is the NCOIC of the Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service. As the NCOIC of DECS, his main duties include providing oversight of functions within the unit and serving as the senior enlisted advisor to the Director. In addition, he performs scientific product testing in all areas of newly marketed dental laboratory materials and equipment. He evaluates products, analyzes test data and formulates conclusions based on project results.

He entered the Air Force July 1998, went to basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas. After completing basic military he attended technical training at Sheppard AFB, Texas. His first assignment was Barksdale LA where he spent a year and a half as a resident assistant. After leaving Barksdale he went to Misawa Japan where he made the rank of Staff Sergeant and was NCOIC of Dental radiology, and later DIPC. Additionally, he did a humanity to Alaska, after completing this assessment he went to Whiteman AFB Missouri where again he was in charge of DIPC and Dental Radiology. In 2003 he was deployed to Kirkurk Iraq for TCN duty. After several other assignments from in Osan Korea, Okinawa Japan, and Incirlik Turkey he arrived at the current assignment here at DECS.



José Guevara-Cortéz

SSgt José Guevara-Cortéz is the NCOIC of Technical Evaluations, USAF Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service, JBSA Fort Sam Houston, TX. He evaluates methods, techniques, procedures, equipment and materials as identified by military dental activities and by the office of the Air Force Surgeon General. SSgt Guevara-Cortéz entered the Air Force in September of 2008. After completing basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas he attended technical training at Sheppard AFB, Texas. His first assignment brought him back to San Antonio to Lackland Air Force Base. SSgt Guevara-Cortéz served as a dental assistant & Spanish translator for a Perú riverine humanitarian mission in 2011. Additionally, in 2012 he deployed to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia as a command post controller for the 64th Air Expeditionary Group/Installations Operations Center. SSgt Guevara-Cortéz has held several positions in the dental field throughout his career to include serving as a dental assistant in Prosthodontics for two years & in the Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency for four years. Furthermore, he performed dental prophylaxes for two years as an oral preventative assistant in General Dentistry. SSgt Guevara-Cortéz holds a CCAF Associates Degree in Dental Assisting and a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Business/Human Resource Management from Park University.



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Robert Terwilliger

SSgt Robert Terwilliger is the NCOIC of Dental Laboratory Evaluations at USAF Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service. As the NCOIC of Dental Laboratory Evaluations, his main duties are performing scientific product testing in all areas of newly marketed dental laboratory materials and equipment. He evaluates products, analyzes test data and formulates conclusions based on project results.

SSgt Terwilliger entered the Air Force in February of 2008. Following basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, he completed the Dental laboratory Apprentice course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas in April of 2008. His duty locations include Sheppard AFB, TX; Hickam AFB, HI; Lackland AFB, TX In April of 2016, he was reassigned to the USAF Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



Lisa Board

Mrs. Lisa Board is the Administrative Assistant to the Director and the Office Assistant to the Dental Evaluation Consultation Service. Mrs. Board supports DECS by performing clerical and administrative work in support of the organization's mission.

Before coming to DECS, Ms. Board worked as the Administrative Assistant for the Commander and Staff of the 47th Civil Engineer Squadron at Laughlin in Del Rio, Texas. She routinely volunteered throughout the squadron and Mission Support Group and was recognized as the volunteer of the quarter. Mrs. Board also has experience as a Red Cross Dental Assistant Volunteer at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.



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Bereket Bogale Seydo

Mr. Bereket Bogale Seydo is a Biomedical Engineering Technician at US Air Force Dental Evaluation and Consultation Service. He Graduated from the Medical Education and Training Campus (METC) as a Biomedical Equipment Maintenance Technician in 2013. Before coming to DECS he worked as a Biomedical Equipment Technician at Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center in Fort Hood, Texas. He also has experience as a dental assist and a dental laboratory technician in both the civilian community and the Army Reserves. He is currently in the Army Reserves and has been serving in the Reserves since 2009. His duty locations include Fort Sheridan, Illinois, Fort Stewart, Georgia, and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Mr. Seydo's Education includes AAS in Biomedical Equipment Technology from Community College of the Air Force, Dental Assisting Diploma from Army Medical Education Development Department (AMEDD), and Dental Laboratory Technician Diploma from Medical Education and Training Campus (METC). Also, Mr. Seydo has completed his Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Equipment Technology from Wayland Baptist University.